

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, before the title, add the following header:

**TITLE OF THE INVENTION**

Page 2, before line 1, add the following header:

**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

Delete the paragraph in its entirety starting on page 2, line 11 through page 3, line 3.

Page 3, before line 4, add the following header:

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Page 6, before line 3, add the following header:

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Page 6, before line 6, please add the following paragraph:

The membranes of the invention, being characterized by a high water permeability, are particularly suitable to be used as proton exchange membranes, for example in fuel cells or in membrane reactors since the high water permeability allows to obtain improved cells. In fact it is well known that one of the most important problems for the good functioning of the fuel cell is the membrane drying at the anode side and the excessive membrane hydration

from the cathode side. A better permeability of the membrane to water allows to reduce these drawbacks. Besides an improved water permeability of the membrane allows to obtain a lower resistance to proton transport of the membrane and therefore even a higher conductivity of the membrane in the cells.

Page 6, before line 17, please add the following header:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION